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## CHILD HYGIENE IN MISSOURI.

On request of the acting governor, made in response to a resolution by the State board of health requesting assistance in child hygiene work in the State, the United States Public Health Service is conducting a State-wide study of child hygiene problems in the State of Missouri in cooperation with the State board of health and a number of volunteer organizations. The main object of the investigation is to leave behind it an effective division of child hygiene in the State department of health that will carry on the work which the results of the investigation indicate should be done. One of the expected results is that a number of communities throughout the State will organize at their own expense for the conservation of child life.

The investigations are in charge of a commissioned officer of the Public Health Service; assisted by a staff of seven women physicians, six public-health nurses, and a number of field investigators, all of whom are women.

Conditions in selected urban, town, and rural districts throughout the State, representing typical American life, will be thoroughly studied. Subject to parental consent, the physical condition of children of the school and preschool age in each of the communities will be carefully studied. Such measures as may be necessary to correct defects will be recommended to the parents and the teachers. Where treatment is necessary, communities will be urged to provide local facilities for that purpose. Accurate records are being kept and a follow-up system has been arranged. Much of the work in the State deals with the hygiene of maternity and infancy. The provisions for the supervision of expectant mothers are being studied with a view to making recommendations for improved facilities for medical advice for protection of the expectant mother and the care of her child. In all these activities the aim is to establish in Missouri model modern organizations for dealing with the health of mothers and children.

The accompanying outline summarizes the more important activities now being carried on in connection with this survey and may serve to indicate how thoroughly the work has been coordinated with that of local and State official and unofficial health agencies.

## PROJECTS TO BE UNDERTAKEN.

Character of work.	Done by—	Assisted by—	Materials used.	Follow up.
1. FIELD INVESTIGATION: House-to-house schedule taking in selected communities.	U. S. P. H. S. field investigators.	Public health nurses.	Schedules furnished by U. S. P. H. S., Division of Child Hygiene.	Birth registration test. Enrolling children of pre-school age in health center or infant welfare station. Prenatal supervision.
2. SCHOOL HYGIENE: Monthly height and weight taking.	School nurses. Teachers.	Field investigators. Home demonstration agents. Local tuberculosis workers. Interested persons. Local tuberculosis workers.	Height and weight record charts furnished by Missouri Tuberculosis Association. Scales furnished by local organizations. Roll of health knighthood charts and chore folders furnished by Missouri Tuberculosis Association and local tuberculosis societies.	Nutrition instruction and supervision.
Modern health crusade.	Teachers. School nurses.			
Physical examination of school children.	School physicians. Teachers. Nurses.	Public health nurses. Red Cross nurses. Tuberculosis nurses.	Cards furnished by U. S. P. H. S., Division of Child Hygiene. State Board of Health and Missouri Tuberculosis Association.	Corrective work of local physicians and dentists. Children's clinics in connection with schools or health center.
3. HEALTH CENTER.	Full-time trained health officer. Red Cross nurses. Tuberculosis nurses.	All agencies.	Office, clinic rooms and equipment supplied by local communities.	Full public health program for county.
4. BIRTH REGISTRATION.	Division of Child Hygiene.	All agencies.	Furnished by State Board of Health and Missouri Tuberculosis Association.	Continuous.
5. LITERATURE DISTRIBUTION: U. S. Public Health Service publication. Missouri Baby Book. Nutrition for Children. Miscellaneous.	Division of Child Hygiene.	All agencies.	U. S. Public Health Service. Missouri Tuberculosis Association. Agricultural Extension service. State Board of Health.	Continuous.
6. PUBLICITY.	Division of Child Hygiene.	All agencies.	As provided.	Continuous.

DIVISION OF CHILD HYGIENE,  
MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF HEALTH  
Jefferson City, Mo.